(e) the number of Allopathic and Homoeopathic pharmacists retired, from CGHS Delhi region during last three years;

(f) the number of Homoeopathic pharmacists who joined, CGHS Delhi region during last three years?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (d) 64 posts of pharmacists (allopathic) and 1 of pharmacist (homoeopathic) are lying vacant. Interviews for filling up of the posts of allopathic pharmacists were held and based on the performance of the candidates, offers for appointment have so far been issued to 31 candidates.

As the Ministry of Finance had directed that no vacancies in CGHS should be filled up without implementation of report of the Staff Inspection Unit (SIU) of the Department of Expenditure. The report was implemented after having discussed with the staff side also. With the issue of orders for implementing the report of the SIU, action to fill up the vacancies was initiated.

(e) 26 allopathic pharmacists and 2 homoeophathic pharmacists retired from service during last three years.

(f) 6 homoeopathic pharmacists have joint duty during the last three years.

Improvement of district hospitals in Maharashtra

1593. SHRI Y.P.TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of money allotted to district hospitals for their improvement in Maharashtra; and

(b) how many district level hospitals in the State are having facilities for heart operations and kidney transplantation?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) An amount of Rs. 131.18 crore has been approved for the State of Maharashtra by the National Programme Coordination Committee in the Ministry during the current Financial Year for upgrading the health institutions to Indian Public Health Standards including 23 District Hospitals.

(b) District Level Hospitals are tertiary care centres but not Super Speciality Centres. They are not envisaged to have facilities for heart operations and kidney transplantation. Under the Indian Public Health Standards, Super Speciality Services including Cardiothoracic Vascular Surgery and Nephrology are envisaged at District Level Hospitals, which have 301 to 500 beds.

Advertisement on medicines

†1594. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.